



ONE MAN & THE OUTBACK

Tom Selleck found the wilds of Australia got to him in more ways than one

TOM SELLECK did little research for his title role in the Australian Outback adventure movie Quigley.

Consequently, the star of films including *Three Men And A Baby* and its sequel, *Three Men And A Little Lady*, was shocked to learn of Australia's treatment of Aborigines — a controversial aspect of the film, which opens on June 13. It was during the shoot, mostly in the Northern Territory, that Tom realised Americans and Australians had so much in common.

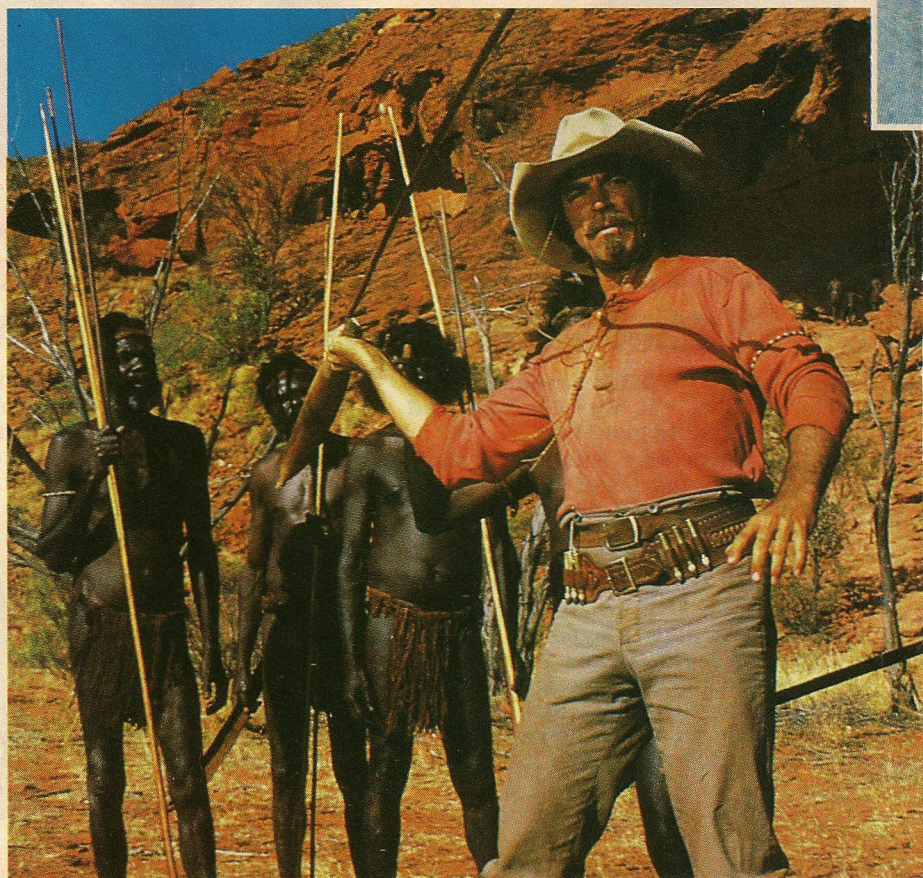
"There is a common denominator (in the Aboriginal-American Indian predicament)," Tom says. "What I see in both situations is man's inhumanity to man . . . and that's not good."

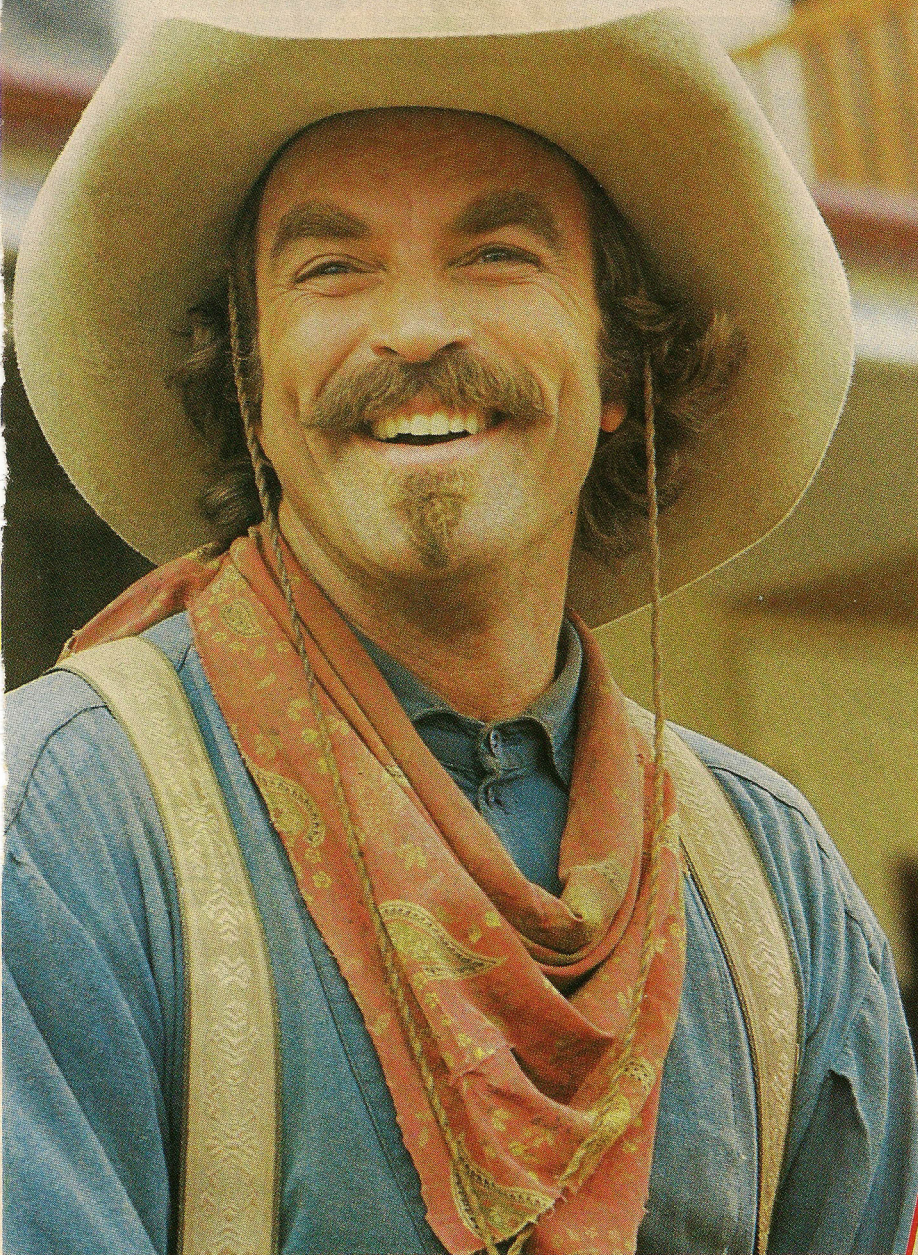
"They (the Aborigines) are such wonderful people and it was personally very rewarding to be able to get close to them. They even taught me some dialect."

The film, in which Tom plays Matthew Quigley, is set in Australia in the 1860s. Quigley, an American sharpshooter, has left his homeland to work for Australian cattle rancher Elliott Marston.

But the rancher (played by Alan Rickman) suggests Quigley help rid the region of a "problem" other than troublesome dingoes — Aborigines.

Quigley, appalled by Marston's reasoning, rebels.





short visit, he was separated from his wife, Jilly Mack, and their daughter Hannah, now 2, for three months while he was in Australia.

But he says "insecurity" prompted him to accept the role.

"Actors who have been out of work for any length of time find it very hard to turn down any job when it comes along, so you just do it," Tom says.

"But you can't always make those decisions at the expense of your family and private life."

The former star of the long-running TV series *Magnum PI* says the past few years have changed him in many ways.

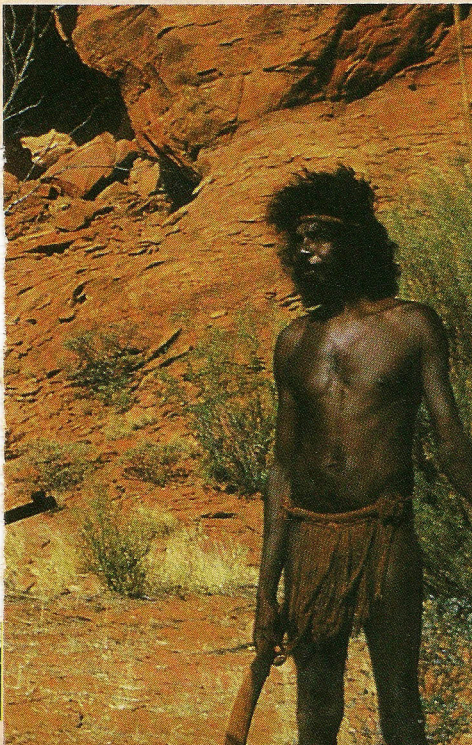
"I'm probably a better actor now than when I started *Magnum*," he says. "But I still get terrified when I start a new movie. Some actors work better scared."

"The biggest challenge is finding the balance between work and my personal life. I wonder sometimes whether I've become the classic Type A workaholic."

Tom does, however, still manage to find time to be a "hands-on dad" and that, he says, does not have much in common with working in the movies.

"Movies are such heightened reality. A real baby is that much grittier, but it's better. It's 24 hours a day and you don't have to rehearse with a doll. It's great!"

*Darren Devlyn and
Douglas Thompson*



ABOVE: A smiling Tom Selleck in Quigley and (left and above left) in scenes featuring some of the 300 Aborigines involved in the film. RIGHT: Selleck and co-star Laura San Giacomo . . . invited to a corroboree.

More than 300 Aborigines from the Warlpiri, Anmutjirra, Luritja, Pintupi and Aranda tribes appear in the film.

As a sign of their acceptance of Tom, co-star Laura San Giacomo, who plays Crazy Cora, and the rest of the cast and crew, a tribe invited them to a corroboree during the shoot.

Tom also experienced "culture shock" of a different kind — apart from a

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